

FAMILY LIFE INFORMATION

Greenville Free Methodist Church
Week of Sunday, September 21, 2025

THIS WEEK

WORSHIP AT 8:30 OR 11:00AM ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2025 – IN PERSON OR VIRTUALLY

Message from Pastor Steve Pichaske: “For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome.” ~1 John 5:3 Ugh...more rules? Cosmic killjoy? I thought we were “Free” Methodists? I don’t really like to be told what to do. Isn’t Christianity all about having and growing into a personal relationship with God? Yes...But...Christianity may be grounded in a personal relationship with God through Jesus, but Christianity is also “communal,” marked by the commandment to “love your neighbors.” Christianity is inherently relational...and every good relationship needs guidance to keep those relationships healthy. What if God’s Ten Words were not given to restrict our freedom but to enhance our happiness? What if these “life guardrails” are actually meant to help keep us in a love relationship with God and the resulting spillover into a love-driven relationship with others? What if we could encounter God’s Ten Words with a sense of life-giving beauty? Join this Sunday, and every Sunday through November 23, as we take a fresh look at “the Perfect 10.” We begin this Sunday with the first word: “I am the LORD your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt. You shall have no other gods before me” (Exodus 20:2-3). p.s. This would be a great season to invite your non-Christian friends. Even if the Ten Words are nothing more than a good moral code, our world could use a little of that right now. Moreover, we will offer the opportunity to experience the grace of Jesus that is at the heart of these Ten Words.

Third Sunday Special Offering: On the third Sunday of the month, growth classes receive a special offering that is sent to Jerry and Jan Coleman, missions mobilizers with the Francis Asbury Society. As you are able, earmark your gift and send it to the church office.

Growth Classes meet 9:45-10:45am

- **Early Childhood** 2-3 year-olds meet in the Fruit of the Spirit Room (A112); 4-5 year-olds meet in the Preschool Room (B111)
- **Kids’ Church** (Grades 1-5) meets in The LOFT at 9:45
- **Growth Class for Grades 1-5 is during the second half of second service.** Kids attend church with parents and are dismissed prior to the sermon. (Kids stay with parents on the first Sunday of each month for communion.)
- **Junior High** and **FMY Growth Classes** meet in A107.
- **Adult Growth Class in C101/103** – Led by Lucia Delamarter
- **Bible Basics Growth Class** in C107, led by Ray Myers: ***Light Enters the Darkness: John’s Gospel of Jesus’ Life***
- **Growth Class** Facilitated by Sarah Littlefield in C104 (FMY Room): ***Sacred Spaces, Holy Encounters***. Church architecture, design, and liturgy have intentional meaning. We will explore the symbolism and how worship in our spaces and our liturgy help us encounter God.

PrayCHURCH! Sundays from 5:00-6:00pm in the Prayer Room (A103)

Local College Students are invited to participate in *GRAFTED: The Gathering* on Sunday nights 6:30-8:00pm in the Greenville University Upper Union for food (Taco bar and homemade cookies), community, and spiritual formation. This week, September 21, Dana Smith, Area Coordinator with GU Residence Life, will be the speaker.



Steve Pichaske, Lead Pastor | 1367 IL Route 140 | 618-664-2584 | Office Hours: Weekdays, 8am to 3:45pm

Wednesday Night Programming:

- **The VOICES IN PRAISE CHOIR**, 6:00pm in the Fine Arts Room.
- **Children Birth-5th Grade**: 6:45-8:00pm, in The Loft. Kids may be dropped off as early as 6:30.
- **Young Teen**: 6:45-8:00pm. Meet in The Young Teen Room (C102)
- **Senior Teens**: 6:45-8:00pm. 9/17–Meet in the FMY Room (C104)
- **TRANSFORM Men's Group: *Authentic Manhood, A Man and His Story***, in the Multi-Purpose Room at 6:45pm.
- **Prayer Gathering** meets at 7:00pm in the Prayer Room (A105)

A GriefShare Support Group is meeting Thursday evenings (September 18–December 18, except holidays) **at 6:00pm, at GPMC in Room C103**. No registration is required, each session is stand alone, and there is no requirement to attend all sessions. The group is free and workbooks are provided. Facilitators are John and Gini Dawdy and Barbara Vaughan.

Celebrate Recovery meets every Thursday at 5:30pm in the FMY Room. Dinner is provided for everyone at 5:30pm, large group and worship time is at 6:00pm and small group time is at 7:00pm. Free childcare is provided the entire evening. Anyone is welcome!

COMING EVENTS

Women's Ministries Come-to-the-Table series is this week, September 21-28. This is our bi-annual week of small group fellowship gatherings throughout the Greenville area. You choose where you go! Spots are limited and fill on first-come basis. Register at the back of the sanctuary or at greenvillefmc.org.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE: GPMC has many areas where the congregation can serve within the church. Below you will find some of our current needs.

Help is needed with our **Bus Ministry** on Wednesday nights. This is a great way to become involved in what the Lord is doing at the church with the kids of Bond County. Many different opportunities are available. Contact [Pastor Christie](#) for more information.

The **Audio Visual Team** is looking for people to help run the **sound board, operate cameras, and run power point slides**. Contact Eric Watterson at rikkr@yahoo.com.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GIVING UPDATE AS OF SEPTEMBER 16, 2025

- September Offerings: \$22,768; \$20,864 Total: \$43,632
- Total Offerings Received to Date: \$736,497
- Total Budgeted Need to Date: \$795,237
- Budget deficit Year-to-Date: -\$58,741
- Benevolence Assistance Fund: Our current balance is \$986
- **Click [HERE](#) to give online**. Thank you for your continued and generous giving to the ministries of Greenville Free Methodist Church!

